take up Handri-Neeva Irrigation Scheme in Andhra Pradesh as a Central project; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Fixation of Water Prices

†1371. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to fix the price of water in order to restrict its excess use in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government have also made any assessment regarding the excess use of water;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the State-wise assessment made regarding the per capita excess use of water in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir the price of water is fixed by State Governments and Municipal and other local bodies.

National Water Policy (1987) envisages that water rates should be such as to convey the scarcity value of the resource to the users and to foster the motivation for economy in water use. The Planning

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Commission set up a Committee on Pricing of Irrigation Water under the Chairmanship of Dr. A Vaidyanathan in October 1991 to review the existing water rates. The report of the Committee has been forwarded to the State Government for consideration and further action.

Excess use of water results primarily due to inefficent use of water. The traditional surface irrigation generally achieves only about 40-50% water use efficiency. Modern irrigation techniques, such as drip and sprinkler are reported to be very efficient and useful in water scarce areas. Subsurface irrigation can significantly reduce losses and achieve higher efficiencies. In order to make proper and efficient use of water by bridging the gap between irrigation potential created and utilized, many schemes like National Water Management Project, Command Area Development Project, Water Resources Consolidation Project, Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Project etc. have been taken up.

(b) to (d) Water is utilized for various purposes like Irrigation, Power, Industrial, Domestic, Navigation, Recreation, etc. in Irrigation sector total water demand is assessed on the basis of crop water requirement of individual crops which varies from region to region and State to State. Per Capita excess use for various purposes would very from State to State.

Lift Irrigation Projects in Orrisa

1372. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details and amount received in the form of Bilateral Assistance from Germany for Orissa Lift Irrigation Projects;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government of Orissa is proposing to close down Orissa Lift Irrigation Corporation (OLIC) due to heavy loss; and